

FEDERAL DEFENDERS OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HENDERSON HILL SELECTED AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Board of Directors for Federal Defenders of Western North Carolina, Inc. is pleased to announce that Henderson Hill has been selected to serve as Executive Director effective September 30, 2011.

Henderson Hill is presently Of Counsel at Ferguson, Stein, Chambers, Gresham and Sumter, P.A. in Charlotte, North Carolina. He is a graduate of Lehman College (1977) and the Harvard Law School (1981). From 1981 through 1991, Henderson was a staff attorney, special litigation counsel, deputy chief of the appellate section, and training director at the Public Defender Service in the District of Columbia. In 1991, Henderson became Director of the North Carolina Resource Center until the Resource Centers across the country were defunded. He then became the first director of the Center for Death Penalty Litigation in 1995. In 1996, he joined Ferguson Stein where he has engaged in the practice of civil and criminal law.

James P. Cooney III, Chair of the Federal Defenders, stated:

“Throughout his career, Mr. Hill has demonstrated the highest commitment to the defense of those charged with crimes who cannot afford counsel. As the new director, the Board is confident that Mr. Hill will continue the organization’s proven commitment to providing high quality representation to indigent defendants. He will continue the legacies of ethics, excellence and high-quality legal representation that has been the centerpiece of this organization since its creation 6 years ago. He is a worthy successor to our first Executive Director, Claire Rauscher, and we are excited that he has agreed to build on Ms. Rauscher’s legacy. We believe that Mr. Hill, like Ms. Rauscher before him, will work to make real the promise of *Gideon*.”